



NJDOE News

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Commissioner Librera to Join Convocation and Videoconference to Kick Off Year-Long Commemoration of *Brown v. Board of Education*

Commissioner of Education William L. Librera will participate in two events on Wednesday, May 14, 2003 to begin a year-long commemoration of the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision that outlawed racial segregation in the nation's public schools.

At 9 a.m., Commissioner Librera and Secretary of State Regena Thomas are hosting and will speak during a two-hour *Brown v. Board of Education* convocation in the War Memorial, Trenton. Dr. Clement Price, professor of African American studies at Rutgers University, will be the keynote speaker. Students from throughout New Jersey will attend.

News media are invited and encouraged to attend the convocation.

The day of commemoration continues at 3:30 p.m. with an interactive videoconference sponsored by the Department of Education. Commissioner Librera will join Dr. Price and students in a panel discussion that will provide an overview of the historic civil rights decision, followed by a question-and-answer session with each of the seven participating sites.

Participants in the videoconference will convene at the following sites: Bergen Academies, 200 Hackensack Avenue, Hackensack; Camden High School, Park and Baird Blvds; Camden; Elizabeth High School; 600 Pearl Street, Elizabeth; Central Elementary School, 335 Broad Street, Keyport; Camden Middle School, 321 Bergen Street, Newark; New Jersey Department of Education, 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton; and Veterans Memorial Intermediate School, 424 South Main Road, Vineland.

News media are invited and encouraged to attend the interactive videoconference.

Dr. Librera noted that the Department of Education plans to recognize and analyze the great social changes brought about by this historic civil rights decision, throughout the year, concluding with ceremonies in May 2004.